

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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5 The present invention is concerned with a distributed system. A change in environment information is detected even during execution of assigned processing, and coped with in order to reduce unnecessary processing. It can be avoided that a condition is set with every change in environment information. A way of information notification is  
10 determined based on a component used for notification.

According to the present invention, even when an agent in which a user-specified condition for information notification is held is executing processing, environment information indicating an environment of the agent can be acquired. The environment information includes equipment accommodated in a network, a user's situation, and environment information indicating an environment outside the equipment. Information is notified based on the  
15 acquired information. Specifically, based on the environment information, information notification may be suspended, an information notification destination or a range of information notification may be changed, a priority given to notified information may be changed,  
20 or the contents of a setting or notified information may be changed. Furthermore, a way of information notification is changed in line with the characteristics of an apparatus used to notify a user  
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